

17 February 1953

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. DULLES

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SUBJECT: PSB Review Staff

I have been talking with [] and [] with respect to the operation of the PSB Review Staff. You will recall that with the change in Administration there has been a complete change in the membership of this staff. The presently designated members are as follows:

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For State, Outerbridge Horsey
For Defense, Col. Black (ad int.)
For JSPD, Gen. Young
For PSB, George Morgan (who serves as Chairman of the Review Staff)

None of these has had any direct experience working in this review function except possibly George Morgan.

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[] feels quite strongly that this is the time for CIA to assert rather definitely and strongly its leadership in this review process. Specifically there are two projects which have been presented to the PSB Review Staff but upon which action has not been completed and he feels that at the very least we should summon the Staff into session and secure disposition of these two items. [] expressed much the same thought in his memorandum to you dated 28 January 1952.

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[] is willing, indeed eager, to move ahead along these lines provided you have not decided on any change in staff procedure or in the personnel you would wish to handle this from our end.

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[] yesterday expressed privately to me his doubts that [] can handle this job. There was no opportunity to press this matter with him and I therefore do not know the reasons for his conclusion. In my opinion [] while lacking some of the force and precision of []

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should be able to do a satisfactory job at least for the interval before the Jackson Committee presents its report this Summer. In order to do this however he should be backed by your definitive decision that present procedures, as embodied in Gen. Smith's memorandum of 30 October, will continue and that he, [redacted] will be the CIA man on the Staff at least for the immediate future.

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While there is nothing inherently contrary between the function of the Recording Secretary of the Project Review Committee and the position of CIA member of the PSB Review Staff I suspect that the duties of the latter position can be more effectively performed by one who sits in on the PRC meetings with a kind of detached objectivity rather than by one whose duties encompass the written record of PRC meetings. It is possible that [redacted] who assisted [redacted] for awhile could be designated PRC Recording Secretary.

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[redacted] availability for the Staff position may depend also upon your decision on the Agency Inspectorate General although it is conceivable that he could carry his present functions in that connection along with his responsibilities to the PSB Review Staff.

I recommend therefore that in the light of [redacted] memorandum of 28 January you:

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a. continue the present PSB Review Staff operation until the Jackson Committee report has been filed;

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b. designate [redacted] or another the CIA representative on this Staff.

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Discussed with A/DCI on 19 February 1953. Mr. Dulles approved the designation of [redacted] as the acting CIA representative on the PSB Review Staff. [redacted] has been so informed.

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